



FAIRCHILD CONNECTION

Vol. 7, No. 50

92arw.pa@fairchild.af.mil

Dec. 19, 2003

What's Inside

Holiday messages

— Page 2

Santa's in Blue

— Page 6

Dining hall closure

— Page 6

Second generation SERE

— Page 8

Civil Engineers battle snow

— Page 10

Fairchild finishes year strong

— page 12,13



Jerry Adamietz

Push'n it

Members of the 92nd Maintenance Group look on as snow removal team clears the flightline. Eighty percent of the snow removal equipment is dedicated to the airfield, since Fairchild's main

priority and mission is keeping planes in the air to fuel the fight and to ensure global reach for America. To read the complete story, see Page 10.

Changes on horizon for Air Force

Tanker Pride



(Courtesy Photo)

Dec. 17 marked the centennial of flight. From the beginning, aerial refueling was identified as a vital capability.

By 2nd Lt. Tiffany Payette
92nd Public Affairs

The chief of staff of the Air Forces' Officer Force Development "Spread the Word" briefing was presented to Fairchild's officer corps Tuesday at the Base Theater.

Major General Mark Volcheff, director of operations, Air Mobility Command, spoke on behalf of the CSAF as he discussed

changes to the officer assignment and professional military education systems and how they have evolved into the CSAF's force development concept.

General Volcheff is the leader of a four-person team that's in the process of going to all AMC bases to spread the word. Fairchild is stop number ten, out of the twelve AMC bases they're visiting.

The presentation started

with a CSAF video, which introduced the program, followed by Lt. Col. Tamra Rank, deputy director of assignments, AMC, who gave a slide briefing and concluded with questions and answers.

In the presentation Colonel Rank talked about force development objectives; the architecture of force development; officer construct and career path under force development;

the enhancements of the assignment process to facilitate force development; developmental education and total force implementation.

She began with an explanation of force development.

"We are on the verge of a significant improvement in the way we make decisions on education and assignments for Air Force

See **Changes**, Page 5

Air Force leaders send holiday messages



Dr. James Roche
Secretary of the Air Force

WASHINGTON (AFPN)
-- "During this holiday season, Americans have placed their hopes for peace with those who have answered the call to secure freedom: the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines of our nation's armed forces. "Indeed, there is no mission more vital and no cause more noble than to be a defender of freedom, particularly when the values we cherish are under attack and when our citizens are going into harm's way.

"Over the past year, we have traveled to many places just to look you in the eye and to offer our thanks for what you're doing for the Air Force and for America. No matter where we go we're always amazed with your talent, dedication and professionalism. "We are also humbled by the sacrifices made by your families as you work long hours or deploy far from home. Our families are the source of support that enables us to serve with

pride and enthusiasm and defend the democratic ideals of our great country. During this special season, our thoughts and prayers will be with them. "Americans are grateful for your selfless service. You have earned their trust and support through your courage, bravery and sacrifice. Simply put, we are honored to serve with you. "It is our hope that you will have a joyous holiday season and a safe and prosperous new year."



Gen. John Jumper
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFPN) — "For generations, U.S. servicemen and women, and government civilians have spent the holiday season far from loved ones so that all Americans can celebrate the peace, prosperity and liberty that our Armed Forces have fought to protect.



Gen. Richard Myers
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

"During this holiday season, the United States is asking much of you -- and you are responding with a strong sense of duty, a willingness to give up personal comfort for the greater good, and the professionalism that has earned our military services honor and respect throughout the world. It is never easy to be away from home, but especially during the holiday season, the courage, patriotism and unconditional support of families and loved ones mean so very much. "Your service and the sacrifices of your families come at a crucial moment in our nation's history. Your dedicated work is making the world a better, safer and more peaceful place. I am inspired by your character and courage, and I am extremely proud to serve with you. "The Joint Chiefs of Staff join me in sending to you and your families our very warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season."

My family and I would like to take the opportunity to extend our warmest holiday greetings to the men and women of Team Fairchild. This past year has been incredibly busy. Whether you're a family member who's held down the fort while your spouse was deployed, or that spouse who spent many days in a far off location defending this country, you've made considerable sacrifices. The sacrifices you've so selflessly made will pay dividends for years to come. You've helped pave the way for freedom and liberty for millions of Iraqi citizens and you've kept our nation safe. Keep our deployed airmen and their families in your thoughts next week. There's never an easy time to be separated from your family and friends, but this time of year is always more difficult. Those of us fortunate enough to be here this holiday season need to be looking out for each other. If you or a buddy is traveling, make sure the necessary precautions are taken. If holiday parties are on the agenda, designate a driver. Don't take any chances... our mission depends on each and every one of you, and I want you all to come back safely next year. Thanks for all you do to make this country, this Air Force and this wing the best!



Col. Anthony M. Mauer
Commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFPN) — "To our airmen stationed at home and abroad and their families -- Sherry and I send our warmest wishes to you this holiday season. It is an honor for us to serve in our U.S. Air Force with each of you. "The holidays bring to mind families gathered around tables stuffed with food and children opening gifts while parents look on. We know that deployments will cause many military families to have an empty seat at the table this year.



Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray
Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force

"If you are one of those families, please know that your sacrifice does not go unnoticed. It is because of you and fellow airmen, soldiers, sailors, Marines and Coastguardsmen that Americans can gather, worship and celebrate in freedom. "As we celebrate this holiday season and prepare to usher in a new year, Sherry and I thank you for your continued dedication and commitment. May God richly bless you, your family and our great nation."

~Happy Holidays



The Fairchild Connection is published by the Cheney Free Press, a private firm in no way connected with the Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Fairchild Air Force Base.

This newspaper is the congressionally authorized commercial enterprise newspaper for Fairchild AFB members of the military services. Contents of the *Fairchild Connection* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication,

including inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the DoD, or Cheney Free Press, of the products or services advertised. Goods and services advertised in this publication will be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchase, user or patron.

Public Affairs

Content is edited, prepared and provided by the 92nd ARW Public Affairs Office, located in Building. 2285, wing headquarters. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m, Monday-Friday. Copy submitted for publication may need to be edited to conform to the Associated Press Stylebook and for length.

Letters to the editor are encouraged, as well as feedback about the paper and its content. For more information, call 247-5705 or fax 247-2120.

Deadlines

Deadline is noon on the Friday a week before publication date.

Submissions are preferred as Microsoft Word documents, times new roman font, 10 pt. and double spaced.

E-mail submissions to 92arw.pa@fairchild.af.mil

Classified ads

For advertisement information or to address advertisement and delivery concerns, call the Cheney Free Press at (509) 235-6184.

Fairchild Connection

Editorial Staff

Commander
Col. Anthony M. Mauer

Chief **NCOIC**
1st Lt. Matt Hasson Tech. Sgt. Martie Capoeman

Chief of Internal
2nd Lt. Tiffany Payette

Fairchild Connection
Editor
Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Staff Writer
Airman Nathan Putz

First Night Spokane volunteer opportunity

First Night Spokane is an alcohol-free, family friendly, public celebration downtown, Dec. 31. Hundreds of performers and artists will perform, culminating in a midnight firework show. Free trolleys will link thirty sites together. See ballet, belly-dancing; enjoy swing dance and contra dancing; join improvisational comedy; listen to the blues, bluegrass, rock, Celtic, symphony, popular and world music. There will be fireworks at Riverfront Park at 9 p.m. and at midnight. Volunteers are needed for First Night Spokane Dec. 31 in the areas of security, dispatch, rovers, set-up and takedown. Volunteers earn a free admission button and collectible 2004 poster. All volunteers must attend a training session. Groups or families working as a team are welcome. To volunteer, contact Tim Diko at 326-1008 or E-mail, timothydiko@yahoo.com. To find out about other volunteer positions available call 218-3932 or visit www.firstnightspokane.org.

Hearts Apart

Hearts Apart morale calls can be made from your home by dialing the base operator at 247-1110 or 247-1212, one week after the active-duty member departs Fairchild.

The quality of life program allows family members of deployed military and employees a free 15-minute call, once per week.

Deployed personnel must be in unaccompanied status at an overseas or remote geographic location, or TDY worldwide for more than 14 days.

Christmas lights

The housing office requires all on-base residents to have Christmas lights taken down by Feb. 1.

For more information contact the housing office at 247-2341.

Dorm management

The 92nd Civil Engineer Squadron is soliciting staff sergeant volunteers for dorm manager duties, special duty identifier 9D000. Normal tour length is two years, may request one-year extension. They are looking for outstanding performers who have demonstrated leadership and responsibility. Individuals must be recommended by their commanders and be released from their functional managers to perform duties outside of their current CAFSC. Interested individuals should call Master Sgt. Dannie Alford at 247-3275. The requested report not later than date is Jan. 15.

Free tickets

The members of the Kalispel Tribe are offering free tickets for the Juice Newton Concert to be held at Northern Quest Casino, Dec. 30, at 9 p.m., to all military ID card holders, active duty, retired, Guard and Reserve and their family members over 18 years old. Juice Newton is a country western singer, popular in the 1980s. Military members are reminded that uniforms are prohibited at casinos.

Last issue

This issue of the Fairchild Connection will be the last issue of the year. Publication of the paper will resume Jan. 9.

For more information, call public affairs at 247-5705.

Closures

The following agencies will be closed Dec. 26: Family Support Center, Finance, and Military Personnel Flight (to include the Customer Service section). However, they will be open the week of Christmas, call 1st Lt Shannon Priddy at 247-4202 or Capt. Cory Brunson, 247-5401 for more information.

The Womens, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program satellite office on Fairchild will be closed Thursday and Jan. 1. They will re-open Jan. 8. The office has moved to the Deel Community Center.

For more information, call the West Central Community Center at 326-9540.

Transition Assistance Program

This three-day workshop assists separating or retiring members and their adult family members to identify skills and interests; plan career goals; increase employment opportunities; learn and analyze labor market information; improve and enhance marketability; and enhance skills and techniques for successful job search. Next date offered: Jan. 6 - 8. Call the Family Support Center to sign up at 247-2246.

Holiday hours for the commissary

The base commissary will be open Monday and Dec. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The store will close at 4 p.m. Wednesday. The commissary will also be closed Thursday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 1.



Airman Henry Lancaster

General-ly speaking

Major Gen. Bill Essex, director of plans and programs, Air Mobility Command, is met by Col. Anthony M. Mauer, commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing, as he arrived Monday. General Essex came to Fairchild for a GATM update and flight, a proposed 767 beddown briefing for the still pending tanker deal, and to attend the wing's holiday reception. General Essex was the 92nd ARW commander from November 1996 through November 1998.

Now playing at the Fairchild Theater

Friday

Brother Bear (G)
1 hour, 25 min.

Brother Bear is the story of a



young Native American, Kenai (Joaquin Phoenix), whose older brother is killed by a bear. During the young man's attempt to avenge his death by killing that bear, the Great Spirits transform the young man into the thing he detests most — a bear.

Saturday

Scary Movie 3 (PG-13)
1 hour, 30 min.

The third installment in the *Scary Movie* spoof franchise pokes fun at sci-fi thrillers and sees TV news reporter Cindy Campbell (Anna Faris) investigating mysterious crop circles on the farm of Tom Logan (Charlie Sheen). Cindy subplots that will ring a bell involve a mysterious videotape that kills one of her friends and an encounter with a prophet named Orpheus (Eddie Griffin), who tells Cindy she's "the one" and must help the president (Leslie Nielsen) prevent an invasion.



Dec. 26

Elf (PG)
1 hour, 30 min.

After crawling into Santa's



bag of toys when he was a baby, Buddy (Will Ferrell) wound up at the North Pole and spent his entire life raised by elves. But Buddy grows three times bigger than all the others, and eventually he sets off for New York City in search of his biological father (James Caan). His father is a no-nonsense workaholic who doesn't buy Buddy's story. Even Buddy's 10-year-old half-brother doesn't believe in him or Santa. The poor misfit finds a whole city of jaded New Yorkers who have forgotten the meaning of Christmas, and is determined to make everyone believe in him and the spirit of the holiday.

Dec. 27

Matrix: Revolutions (R)
2 hours, 9 min.

The concluding chapter of the *Matrix* trilogy finds Neo (Keanu Reeves) trapped between the real world and the computer-generated Matrix. After being rescued by Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) and Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne), he consults the Oracle (Nona Gaye) and sets off to confront his nemesis, Agent Smith (Hugo Weaving). But to do so, he first must make a nearly impossible journey to the machine city to strike a bargain that may end the war and save Zion, which is under attack by sentinels, fierce battle droids sent by the thousands to wipe out the humans' last line of defense.



Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the movie starts promptly at 7 p.m. Children 5 and under are admitted free, 6 to 11 are \$1.50 and adults are \$3. Call 247-5600 for a list of movies and times.

92nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Congratulations to Capt. Althea Loschinsky, Master Sgt. Anthony Hill, Master Sgt. Michael Judd, Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Dice, Tech. Sgt. Emmanuel Waits, Tech. Sgt. Wesley Padgett, Staff Sgt. Christopher Mohr, and Senior Airman Corey Bennett for receiving an Air Force Achievement Medal at this month's commander's call.

Congratulations to the following award winners for October. Technical Sgt. Darrell Moore, Specialist of the Month; Staff Sgt. Joseph Martinez, Support Person of the Month; Staff Sgt. Lenny Mejia and Senior Airman Daniel Donovan from aircraft 58-0049, Aircraft of the Month; and Airman 1st Class Keith Russo, Crew Chief of the Month.

92nd Medical Support Squadron

Congratulations to the following individuals on their award selection. Capt. Mickey Goodridge, CGO of the Quarter; Tech. Sgt. Sheila Hanley, NCO of the Quarter; Airman 1st Class Suzie Fowler, Airman of the Quarter; Mandy-Lea Martin, Civilian, Cat I; Marcia Schwaegler, Civilian, Cat II.

92nd Maintenance Operations Squadron

Welcome Airman Maria Pardo, our newest maintenance data system analyst arriving from Shepherd AFB, Texas, Tech. Sgt. William Linder to Quality Assurance and Tech. Sgt. Phillip Smith to the Maintenance Operations Control Center.

Also, Maj. Don Russell, commander, would like to thank members of the 92nd MOS team for volunteering for the channel 6 televised food and toy drive. Thanks to all of you, this event was a great success.

92nd Maintenance Squadron

Congratulations to Capt. Frank Shifflett, Master Sgt. Norman Harada, Staff Sgt. Michael Stordahl and Senior Airman Andrew Sprietzer for the AMC Aircraft Maintenance Professional of the Year award.

Also, congratulations to Staff Sgt. Joseph Grosko for receiving the Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year Award.

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Randy Hodges and Airman 1st Class Bradley Duncan for receiving the AMC Maintenance Support Professionals of the Year Award.

92nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Eric and Bernita Chase on the arrival of their first child, Connor. He was born Nov. 20, weighing six pounds, 13 ounces. Next, Dec. 1, Brianna was born to Senior Airman Paul and Kimberly Sanchez, weighing five pounds, 13 ounces. Finally, Dec. 5, Airman Curtis and Jessica Brown welcomed Deven Curtis into their lives, he was six pounds, six ounces.

November 26, the following Bulls sewed on new stripes: Senior Airmen Rupinder Sekhon and Shawn Welch, and Airman 1st Class Mark McIntosh. Way to go, gentlemen.

Please keep the family members of our deployed members in your hearts and minds as we continue marching through the holiday season. Any small gesture is appreciated, especially as the snow falls and driveways need shoveling.

92nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Congratulations to Senior Airman Peggy Drabus on the birth of her son, Paul Dylan Drabus, weighing seven pounds two ounces. He was born Dec. 10.

92nd Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Congratulations to the following individuals on their award selection. Master Sgt. Fred Wagner, CGO of the Quarter; Staff Sgt. Jeremy Brignac, NCO of the Quarter; Senior Airman Annissa Chavez, Airman of the Quarter; Nancy Makar, Civilian Cat I.

93rd Air Refueling Squadron

Congratulations to 1st Lt. Scot and Michele Stewart on birth of their baby girl Hayley Elizabeth Stewart, born Nov. 14, weighing nine pounds. Congratulations to Capt. Allan and Christina Chunn on the birth of their son Hunter Jacob Chunn, born Dec. 5, weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces.

Farewell to Lt. Col. Keith Ross, Maj. Kennis Nicholls and Master Sgt. John Curry.

Welcome to the squadron Maj. Richard Mills and Airman 1st Class Brandon Johnson.

92nd Services Squadron

Welcome to Fairchild Master Sgt. Douglas Spalto. He is the new first sergeant for the squadron.

Fourteen awarded Below the Zone

Fourteen airmen were selected for BTZ, award winners include:

92nd Maintenance Squadron

Charles Shipman and Bradley Duncan

92nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

William Barr and Stephen Humphreys

92nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Timothy Crotty, Joshua Massey, Timothy Moon and Brett Rezewski

22nd Training Squadron

Jesse Jermyn and Ian Mortensen

92nd Maintenance Operations Squadron

Stephanie Nelson

92nd Comptroller Squadron

Joy Jacobs

336th Training Support Squadron

Marivel Rodriguez

92nd Communications Squadron

Brian Reed

92nd Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Jean Odtohan and Austin Heim

Tax statement available on myPay

Tax season is rapidly approaching and this year military members who have a myPay, <https://mypay.dfas.mil> personal identification number (PIN) will receive an electronic W-2 in lieu of the traditional hardcopy.

Major Trent Edwards, commander, 92nd Comptroller Squadron, said, "the myPay Web site provides a safe method for users to manage their pay information from many locations at anytime. Last year, more than 1.2 million users viewed their tax statements on myPay."

Users will also be able to save their tax statements electronically. Active duty military members who are deployed will automatically receive a hard copy of their W-2s at the mailing address they listed within the myPay system.

MyPay PINs can be acquired at the myPay Web site or for an instantly activated PIN, people can visit the base finance office.

"We can assign myPay PIN

numbers in as little as five minutes" said Major Edwards. "In this day and age we have the ability to improve customer service and support electronically. Active duty members with myPay PIN numbers will receive their statements much sooner than those that are mailed."

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service projects tax statements will be posted on myPay on the following dates:

- ◆ Active duty - Currently posted
- ◆ DoD civilians — Wednesday to Dec. 29;
- ◆ Reserve and National Guard — Dec. 26 to Jan. 1;
- ◆ Military retirees — Jan. 1 to Jan. 5;
- ◆ Army, Air Force and Navy — Jan. 16 to Jan. 26.

For assistance, call myPay customer support at 1-800-390-2348 or contact the base finance office at 247-3748 or E-mail them at 92cpts.finance@fairchild.af.mil.



Airman Henry Lancaster

Major Gen. Mark Volcheff, director of operations, Air Mobility Command, answers questions about the officer force development program, beside Col. Anthony M. Mauer, commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing.

Changes

Continued from Page 1

officers. Force development is about communicating better to make better developmental decisions. It's not a solution to all assignment and promotion challenges," said Colonel Rank.

Force development is a system that focuses on placing the right person, at the right place, at the right time with the skills, knowledge and experience needed to effectively lead teams and accomplish their missions.

"Force development will provide our Air Force with officers who have a wider perspective, beyond just their functional communities," said Colonel Rank.

"Force development has one major theme in mind — to meet the needs of the Air Force today and in the future, while respecting your desire to grow and succeed as Air Force officers," she said.

Numerous questions were asked throughout the question and answer period.

Questions included asking General Volcheff to break down the old versus new developmental selection process, asking if there's a timeline set-out to complete a transitional officer

development plan or if it'll be as people come up to their assignment window, and if personnel will get credit for their work prior to being rated.

General Volcheff made it clear that the promotion process will still look at the whole person concept and that the force development program doesn't affect it.

"I think the officer force development program is a great concept. This briefing will help officers, both junior and senior in rank, understand how the Air Force is evolving and how we need to take advantage of the increased opportunities for professional and personal development, which will ultimately increase mission effectiveness," said 2nd Lt. Bill Simpson, OIC conventional storage area, 2nd Support Squadron.

The force development program will soon move on to the enlisted force, civilians, Guardsmen and Reserve personnel.

For more information on officer force development or to see the slide-show presentation visit: dp.hq.af.mil/afslmo/fd or afpc.randolph.af.mil/afas.

Santa wears blue for community children

92nd Public Affairs

By 2nd Lt. Tiffany Payette

The Santa's in Blue Christmas party sponsored by Fairchild's Company Grade Officer Association, was held Saturday at the FunSpot. Fifty underprivileged children from the Spokane community attended. Children came from Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center and the Morning Star Boys Ranch.

"We put on the Santa's in Blue celebration to throw a special Air Force holiday party for underprivileged children in the Spokane community," said 1st Lt. Jason Okumura, Santa's in Blue organizer, CGOA. "We provided entertainment, food and presents for the children's party."

The children's day started off with roller-skating, playing mini-golf and eating and drinking all the pizza and soda they could.

Then, Santa came in with his elves and each child had a chance to sit on his lap and told Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

This event has become a CGOA-sponsored annual event, which we look forward to each year, said

Lieutenant Okumura.

Although the CGOA put this together, it couldn't have been done without the help of numerous squadrons and other organizations around base, he said.

Around twenty members from Fairchild's First Four Organization helped the CGOA with setup, cleanup and provided personnel to be Santa and the two elves.

"It's refreshing to know how many airmen enjoy helping out with this event every year, by unselfishly donating their time for this wonderful cause," said Senior Airman Annissa Chavez, president, First Four Organization.

"Not only does this impact the lives of those children, but it also gives the airmen a different look on life and raises their morale significantly," she added.

About twenty squadrons on base donated gifts to children, raising more than \$1,800 in gifts and

donations. In addition to squadrons' participation, the Chief's Group and Officer's Spouses' Club gave monetary donations.

The children left with their bellies

full, their bodies exhausted from roller-skating and playing mini-golf, and their hearts full of happiness and joy from all the presents they received.



2nd Lt. Tiffany Payette

Airman 1st Class John Coleman, personnel apprentice, 92nd Operations Support Squadron plays Santa as he strolls in to meet the children at the FunSpot Saturday. Santa's in Blue is a Company Grade Officers Association-sponsored event to bring christmas joy to underprivileged children from Spokane.

Fairchild renovates Warrior Dining Facility

By Airman Nathan Putz

92nd Public Affairs

In an effort to improve the quality of life of Fairchild's airmen, the Warrior Dining Facility will undergo a \$1.2 million renovation lasting through June. The project is scheduled to begin Jan. 4 after the lunch meal.

"Dorm residents and those members already on Basic Allowance for Subsistence will receive BAS at Rations in Kind not Available," said Capt. Ryan Larson, financial services flight commander, 92nd Comptroller Squadron. "The higher rate BAS is paid to members when the installation commander determines it necessary."

"The closure of the Warrior Dining Facility will qualify members for RIKNA," he added.

In addition to the dorm residents, the 141st Air National Guard and personnel TDY to Fairchild will also be affected by the renovation, receiving an

increased per diem to cover additional food costs incurred due to closure of the warrior over guard weekends and TDYs. Personnel assigned to the 336th Training Group will use the Roger A. Ross Dining Facility and won't be affected by the BAS change.

To assist dorm residents for meals, Club Fairchild will be open Mondays through Fridays beginning in January, and will serve breakfast and lunch. The breakfast buffet will be open 6 – 8 a.m. and lunch buffet will be open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Club will also serve a Champagne Breakfast on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"It will pay to be a member of the Club," said Master Sgt. David Walker, manager Warrior Inn Dining Facility, 92nd Services Squadron. Club Fairchild will be available for dinner Tuesdays through Fridays with various programs available from Bargain Night, Mug Night, Wing

Night, etc. The Final Point is open for dinner Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays through Saturdays, 4 – 11 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesdays. Member Value Pricing will apply at both locations.

The 92nd SVS has more than 35 members deployed and TDY right now, said Sergeant Walker. The Warrior Inn Dining Facility personnel will be reassigned to remaining duty sections in the squadron to relieve some of the work load.

"The plans for remodeling the facility have been in the works for two years," said Sergeant Walker. "The dining options of going to BAS for the dormitory personnel versus alternate feeding plans have been developed over the last three months."

The dining room will receive a face-lift. All the booths and raised seating will be removed and a large freestanding fireplace installed. The kitchen area

will have a plumbing and infrastructure renovation to make it more efficient and trouble-free.

"The remodeling will open up the dining room and make it a warmer, more inviting place to dine with a northwestern lodge feel to it," said Sergeant Walker. "We are expecting positive feedback from our customers."

"During the construction the Ross dining facility will take over the midnight meal and provide meals to the fire department. The Flight Line Feeding Facility Alert kitchen, located in Building 2065, 8 South Taxiway, G Road, will provide ground support and flight box meals," said Chief Master Sgt. William Moffitt, superintendent, 92nd SVS.

The finance office will have to make manual adjustments for more than 2,500 members living in the dorms or TDY to Fairchild.

"After Jan. 1, members can access MyPay or

LeaveWeb and verify that the entitlement has started for their end of month paycheck," said Major Trent Edwards, commander, 92nd CPTS.

Major Edwards and Chief Master Sgt. Terry Speer, senior enlisted advisor, 92nd Air Refueling Wing, want to remind members the increased BAS is temporary and will only be paid through the completion of the renovation.

"After the renovation is complete, BAS will stop for all members who were previously on a meal card and return other BAS recipients back to the normal BAS entitlement," said Major Edwards. "It's important for members to realize up front that this is a temporary increase in pay. We would hate to see members incur financial hardship on themselves because they made long-term financial commitments based on a short-term financial gain."

Spokane Transit Authority Bus route to Fairchild under review, commanders taking action

By Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan
92nd Public Affairs

(Some information for this article has been compiled from a letter to Al French, chairman, Spokane Transit authority, from Col. Anthony M. Mauer, commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing.)

The Spokane Transit Authority has proposed route reductions that would eliminate all services to Fairchild Air Force Base.

The plan to remove service to Fairchild is still a concept, said Teresa Stueckle, spokesperson, Spokane Transit Authority. The state has recently cut STA's revenues by 40 – 45 percent by eliminating the motor vehicle excise tax.

The eliminated tax is forcing them to search for ways to cut costs, and Fairchild may be on the chopping block.

When Colonel Mauer heard of the proposed cut, he wrote a letter explaining how STA provides a critical



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

A Spokane Transit Authority bus leaves the BX here Wednesday, the buses may leave permanently depending on the STA board of director's decision on maintaining the route.

link between Fairchild and approximately 14,000 retirees.

According to the letter, "Fairchild

is recognized throughout the Air Force as a leader in partnering with local nonprofit agencies to employ disabled

people from the community." Due to the STA routes linking Fairchild, 59 local disabled citizens are able to hold jobs at Fairchild.

The decision on whether to cut Fairchild from the routes still has to be decided by the board of directors, said Mrs. Stueckle. If the decision to remove the base from the route passes, the STA buses will run to Fairchild until approximately July 5.

Whether the bus routes stop serving Fairchild or not, the smaller, self-sufficient vanpool service will continue, she said.

"I realize the cuts STA is being forced to make are huge, significant and will have a dramatic impact on many in our community," said Colonel Mauer. "I am asking for only the most minimal of service to the base so we can continue to meet the needs of those who have honorably served our nation; continue our partnership that provides employment to so many disabled people; and remain a base recognized for unparalleled community support."

Survival School: The second generation

By Airman Nathan Putz
92nd Public Affairs

Not many careers in the Air Force have a second generation follow in the footsteps of their parents. It's even rarer when the first and second generation are serving at the same time, in the same place.

Colonel Marvin Pugmire, deputy commander, 336th Training Group, and his son Airman 1st Class Jonathan Pugmire, survival, evasion, resistance and escape instructor, 336th Training Group, are both members of the SERE career field and stationed at Fairchild in the same chain of command.

"Airman Pugmire has been in my chain of command since December of last year," said Colonel Pugmire. "My wife and I attended his basic military training graduation at Lackland, Texas in November 2002." Airman Pugmire completed the SERE Indoctrination Course at Lackland and reported to the 336th TRG's, 66th Training Squadron, December of 2002.

Having his son in the same career and same chain of command has not affected daily duties, said Colonel Pugmire.

"We have a great team of commanders, operations officers and enlisted leadership at the U.S. Air Force Survival School and I knew he would be in good hands," he said. "The 66th TRS Instructor Cadre works hard to ensure our Survival Instructor Training Course graduates are well trained and ready to move on to the 22nd TRS. I told my son, that probably half his instructors would give him the

benefit of the doubt and half his instructors would be harder on him."

Even though Airman Pugmire's father is the deputy commander, the communication up and down the chain of command has been professional, said Colonel Pugmire.

Having his son stationed at the same base is wonderful, he added.

"How many military dads or moms have their sons or daughters at the same base, much less in the same unit. It's been a great experience for our family," he said.

"I have enjoyed being under my father's command immensely and we have grown over the past year to be good friends as well," said Airman Pugmire. "It was a little awkward at first. I wanted to make sure my peers and cadre didn't think I was a golden boy. I wanted this job on my own merit."

Airman Pugmire's example has an effect on his younger brother Josiah as well. He's excited and eager to join the survival career field.

"For his birthday this summer, Senior Airman Brian Thomas, SERE specialist, 22nd TRS, built an A-frame shelter in the back yard and



Airman Nathan Putz

Colonel Marvin Pugmire, deputy commander, 336th Training Group shares a moment with his son Airman 1st Class Jonathan Pugmire, survival, evasion, resistance and escape instructor, 66th Training Squadron, at a display case in the George "Bud" Day Building.

Josiah and his guests ate MREs, dressed in battle dress uniforms and painted their faces with camouflage," said Colonel Pugmire. "Airman Pugmire would've been happy to build the shelter, but he was busy with training. He regales us with his survival tales every time he returns from the field. We look forward to hearing the latest accounts of training successes and the lighter side of training."

Stories include when the class summated Timber Mountain with 70-pound rucksacks during the mobility training phase and being hoisted from a 20-man raft into a Coast Guard SH-60 during the Coastal Training Phase, riding to the shore and eating six-inch banana slugs. The stories are always a favorite for the family, said Airman Pugmire.

Airman Pugmire first became interested in the SERE career field when he visited Fairchild between semesters of college, he said.

"I've never met an instructor that didn't have an incredible comfort zone. They feel at ease with just about every situation you can imagine," said Airman Pugmire. They can handle a huge work load and not be bothered by it."

"They basically don't need to sleep to function the way most people do, and their ability to improvise their way out of any problem they face carries over into their personal lives. It's hard not to be impressed by the creativity of the people in this career field," he added.

As he went through training and was confronted by people, they wanted to make sure he knew they didn't care if he was a golden boy.

"Eventually it became a joke among my peers, that whenever something went our way from up the chain of command it was because, 'my Dad's a colonel.' There was also one other colonel's son in my class so sometimes I could also say, 'Your dad really is a colonel,'" said Airman Pugmire.

Airman Pugmire wanted to emulate the people he met in the SERE community and loves the outdoors, he said.

"The cadre at ITF were nothing but professional and objective. I was dropped when I deserved it and rewarded when I earned it," he said. "Many instructors were curious why I chose the career and I'd tell them of my interest prior to BMT."

Airman Pugmire currently lives in the dorms, but is already making plans for his future.

"I'm going to focus on developing the skills necessary to teach aircrew members what to do when things aren't going well," he said. "Long term I wouldn't mind going to the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., to teach water survival."

"When I'm old and gray I want to teach kids at the college level how to read proficiently," he added.

"Having Airman Pugmire in the same career and close to home is a great opportunity. It has been a great experience for our family," said Colonel Pugmire.



Airman Christie Putz

Airman Pugmire was awarded his functional badge by his father, Colonel Pugmire, at his graduation from class 04-01, Dec. 10.

In the holiday spirit...

Holiday contests, party



Airman Henry Lancaster

Christine Davis, wife of Master Sgt. Robert Davis, electric shop foreman, 92nd Civil Engineer Squadron, is notified by Col. Anthony M. Mauer, commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing, and Mary Hammer, housing manager, 92nd CES, about being the overall winner of the holiday decoration contest Wednesday. There was one winner for each housing area.



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Colonel Harold James, commander, 92nd Mission Support Group and David Kiester, skills development director, 92nd Services Squadron, award first place in the holiday card contest to the Top Three Organization Monday. Second and third places were awarded to the 92nd Security Forces Squadron and the 92nd Operations Group. Coordination for the contest was made by the 92nd SVS and the 92nd Civil Engineer Squadron provided the boards and lighting.



Pam Martin

Fifteen children from the Hutton Settlement attend a party with Santa, Dec. 10 at the FunSpot. Donations for the event were made from the 92nd Air Refueling Wing staff and the 92nd Mission Support Squadron.

Snow team dedicated to keep base clear

Story and photos by Jerry Adamietz
92nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Who says mothers are the only ones who clean up after their children? In the case of the 92nd Civil Engineer snow team its the other way around, they clean up after mother, in this case it happens to be mother nature.

Unless you've been deployed or vacationing in the sun, it's known what the residents of the Inland Northwest have been through this past month. Snow, ice, slush and bitterly cold temperatures hammered Fairchild to near submission in November, testing the patience of even the most hardened northern tier regulars.

One of the bright spots in all of this was the determination and performance of Fairchild's snow removal crew.

While working continually from the time of the first snow flake, until the last blade of snow is removed from the base pavement, snow removal and equipment maintenance crews are focused on two things: keep airplanes flying and disrupt people's lives as little as possible.

Whether it's dropping children off at the child development center, getting to the commissary or taking off for world hot-spots, the mission of the snow team is to give their customers what they need to complete their activities and enjoy a high quality of life no matter how deep the snow gets.

The 92nd CES has many resources to help ensure the mission gets completed. A \$950,000 budget, which includes labor, materials, equipment upkeep and more than \$4 million in state-of-the-art equipment, ensures the snow removal effort on Fairchild is first class and directed towards customer satisfaction.

Although some base housing residents may feel as if they are being forgotten, that's simply not the case. Snow removal at Fairchild is based on priorities, and being an Air Force base with worldwide responsibilities, flying is the first part of the snow removal puzzle.

This means the runway, it's associated taxiways and aircraft-parking areas come first. With more than 2.5 million square yards of airfield pavement to be plowed, more than 80 percent of the 34 pieces of heavy snow removal equipment are designed for and dedicated to the airfield. This leaves only a small number of plows and other equipment for use on base and in housing areas.

Another challenge to consider is that snow removal employee authorizations have been



Jerry Adamietz

The teams have specialized equipment that helps them clear more than 1,000 miles of standard roads and more than 2.5

reduced from a total of 103 in 1988 to 59 in 2003. This reduction in manpower has had the effect as in other areas, doing the same or more work with less. It was not uncommon for employees to work nine to 12 days without a day off during the heaviest part of the snowfall, 12-hour days at that. During and following a normal four-inch snowfall, the snow team plows the equivalent of more than 1,000 miles of standard 24-foot wide roads, an awesome effort considering the aforementioned challenges met by the entire Fairchild team.

During winter months, snow equipment takes a beating. The saviors in this part of the equation are the hard working people at the 92nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, heavy equipment maintenance repair section. Repair crews do an outstanding job ensuring readiness of the snow equipment.

What does this mean to you, the customer? It means possible delays to the secondary priorities in the snow removal plan: base streets, parking lots and housing areas. However, many people who live in some of the communities that surround Fairchild would love to have the snow removal effort put forth on base.

What can you as a member of Team Fairchild

million yards of airfield pavement. The teams work day and night to keep the roads and flightline clear for safe travel.

do to help in the snow fighting effort? A few simple things would help the snow removal crews meet your needs as customers.

First, remove cars from streets in base housing during and following snowfalls. Cars parked on the street hinder and slow crews and don't allow for very clean streets.

Second, keep children away from streets when equipment is in the vicinity. Visibility is poor, at best, in some of the equipment.

Third, if you go on a trip or TDY, park in your squadron's designated long term parking area where your vehicle won't be in the way of crews trying to clean a road or parking lot.

Fourth, yield to snow removal equipment on base and on the airfield, this will speed up the process and eliminate safety hazards.

Fifth, please don't direct phone calls to the snow control office during snow or ice control operations. This makes it very difficult for dispatchers and supervisors to communicate for priority and /or emergency work on the airfield and other areas on base. Please direct calls to the base housing office for questions concerning snow removal or go to the Web site <https://fsgjlkwinet.fairchild.af.mil/sptgces/>.

December: National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

By Staff Sgt. Yvette Arce
92nd Medical Operations Squadron

Each year nationwide, 16,000 people die in motor vehicle crashes that are alcohol or drug-related. Remarkably these fatalities are preventable.

Driving after drinking alcohol or other drugs is a serious concern. During the holiday season, many people may attend parties, where these substances could be readily

available.

The number of alcohol or drug-related vehicle crashes and fatalities are high and it continues to be a serious public health problem that's experienced in every community. The economic and personal effects of impaired driving are devastating. Efforts must be continued to prevent this problem through vigilant prevention, education and enforcement efforts.

The only way to guarantee that

people are driving safely is to avoid alcohol and other drugs completely. Even one drink can slow reflexes and make people sluggish as it alters their blood alcohol concentration.

Factors such as gender, body weight, rate of alcohol consumption, alcohol tolerance, and amount of sleep, cause each person to react differently to alcohol. To ensure people are safe while behind the wheel of a car,

they should not have had a single drink.

Don't be a statistic this season or throughout the rest of the year. If people drink anything at all, they need to designate a driver, who will abstain from alcoholic drinks so that they can safely drive.

For more information on alcohol and drug issues, contact the Alcohol, Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment clinic at 247-2731.



Master Sgt. Bob Harris

Lieutenant Colonel Landry Smallfoot, flight safety officer, Col. David Avenell, vice commander, Chief Master Sgt. Glen Nelson, chief boom operator and

Master Sgt. Sam Via, boom operator pose for a picture. All of them will be retiring from the 141st Air Refueling Wing at the end of the year.

Four veterans retire with 126 years of combined experience

By Lt. Col. Nancy Reid
141st Air Refueling Wing

The 141st Air National Guard will retire four of its longest standing aircrew members at the end of the year. A combined tenure of 126 years will depart the 141st Air Refueling Wing with the retirements of Col. David Avenell, vice commander; Lt. Col. Landry Smallfoot, flight safety officer; Chief Master Sgt. Glenn Nelson, chief boom operator; and Master Sgt. Sam Via, boom operator. Chief Nelson has had the longest history with the unit, joining in 1965 when the unit was located at Geiger Field and flew F-102 Delta Darts. Chief Nelson was a command post controller. In 1975, the unit was converted to a refueling wing and moved to Fairchild AFB. Chief Nelson then became one of the first boom operators in the unit. His father was a former commander of the unit from 1963 to 1967. The Nelson Air National Guard lineage has been continuous for 53 years. Colonel Avenell started his Air National Guard career in 1970 and was an F-101 weapons system officer at Geiger Field. He later went to pilot training and flew the T-33, F101, C-131, C-12, C-16 and KC-135. He

has accumulated more than 6,000 flying hours. Colonel Avenell served the unit as chief of plans and programs, logistics group commander and has been the vice commander for the past three years. Colonel Smallfoot started his career in 1973 as a B-52 navigator in the Air Force. He joined the 141st ARW in 1979 and began navigating the unit's KC-135s. Colonel Smallfoot has served in many capacities over the past 24 years, including current operations and quality management officer. Most recently he has served for five years as the flying safety officer. Sergeant Via served in the Army from 1967 to 1970 and he's a veteran of the Vietnam War. Born and raised in Spokane, he returned and worked for the Airway Heights Post Office, where he was promoted to postmaster in 1978. Sergeant Via joined the 141st ARW in 1981 and became a boom operator. Sergeant Via has a total of 25 years in military service. The 141st ARW is one of the oldest Air National Guard flying units in the United States. Dating back to 1924, the wing has a long legacy in military aviation. The long-standing careers of these four outstanding aviators highlight the rich heritage of the 141st ARW.

Fairchild closes out 2003 with AMC bragging rights



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Scott Wittaker, environmental compliance pollution prevention manager, 92nd Civil Engineer Squadron, received the Pollution Prevention Award for Individual Excellence. 92nd CES also won the Natural Resources Conservation award (small base), Cultural Resources Management award (all installations) and the Cultural Resources Management award for Team Excellence.



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Senior Airman Matt Walrod, medical technician, 92nd Medical Operations Squadron listens to the lungs of a patient. The medical group was recently awarded the AMC Medical Treatment Facility of the Year 2003. They will be competing at the Air Force level in January.



The Fairchild Fitness Center received the 5-Star Excellence Recognition Program award for its facilities. The fitness center is one of 11 in the Air Force, and one in four fitness center

ts



Airman Nathan Putz

Colonel Anthony M. Mauer, commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing , announces the 2003 Best Medical Treatment Facility in Air Mobility Command to Colonel David Womack, commander, 92nd Medical Group, during Wing Stand up Dec. 11. The 92nd MDG was lauded by AMC for their consistent high performance on clinical, leadership and management metrics plus their terrific inspection results at Fairchild's high operations tempo.



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

ard for outstanding achievement in operations, training, customer service and s in the AMC to receive the award.



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Master Sgt. Mort Gould, superintendent, 92nd Contracting Squadron and Tech. Sgt. Donna Early, contract specialist, 92nd CONS, look over some paperwork Monday. Sergeant Gould received the Secretary of the Air Force Professionalism in Contracting award, the award is based off of achievements throughout an individuals entire career. Sergeant Early received the Air Mobility Command Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member award for administering more than \$5 million in contracts and deploying under Operation Enduring Freedom. 92nd CONS received the Air Mobility Command's Outstanding Contracting Unit Award for setting the standard for all contracting squadrons to follow.

Fairchild varsity struck down by Spokane ‘A’ Division 58 - 51

By Senior Airman Melissa Barber
92nd Services Squadron

Fairchild AFB varsity basketball team learned a lesson from the Spokane “A” Division Dec. 10.

“We ran into a buzz saw tonight. We were out-rebounded 57-30 and offensively our passing game was almost nonexistent,” said Bob Smith, coach, Fairchild varsity basketball team. “Hopefully, as we continue to add bigger and stronger players, we will be able to compete with the more experienced Spokane teams. Our team chemistry will take shape and we’ll get better.”

“Overall, our 3-2 record isn’t indicative of the way we are playing,” he said. “As badly as we’ve been out-matched downtown, we’ve also had the advantage in all three of our wins. If we are to get better by late January through March however, we’ll need to find our rhythm and build from there.”

Asi Oba led the way for Fairchild with 12

rebounds and 10 points. Durward Till grabbed 5 rebounds. Carlos Simmons drained three 3-pointers as he contributed 12 points and unselfishly allowed James Gasaway to run the point and dish out 5 assists and 10 points. Tyrel Simpson, played big on defense and Coach Smith gave the game ball to Selby Basker for coming off the bench to stabilize a porous rebounding and interior defensive effort. Scott Pleines added 3 rebounds and Jeremy Mosley contributed 7 points.

“We’re learning a lot right now – hopefully,” said Coach Smith.

“If we’re going to win the close ones against the good teams, we’ll need to learn how to shake the freestyle play and make others on the team better, learn how to respect the officiating, execute the offenses, and most of all come ‘ready’ to work smart and play hard,” said Coach Smith. “If we can stay focused on this, we’ll at least be respectable.”

HAWC Briefs

General fitness

This one-hour class is tailored to help people develop their own exercise program. Strength-training principals will also be briefly discussed. People must complete a par-Q questionnaire prior to attending this workshop. Class is the first Thursday of each month, 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Living with diabetes

This class teaches how diabetes affects overall health. This class includes discussion on eye care, dental care, medications, stress management, exercise and diet. This class is held every second Friday of each month, from 9 a.m – noon. For more information and class registration, call 247-2131.

Strength training principals

This one-hour class will teach people how to safely and effectively modify their existing strength-training program or begin a new

program. People will receive hands-on training at either the HAWC or the fitness center. Strength training areas include how long, how often, how many repetitions and what order muscles should be trained to achieve personal goals. This class is the third Thursday of each month, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Cholesterol control class

This one-session class is a condensed version of "eat well for life." Participants will learn how to improve cholesterol levels by eating a reduced saturated fat and high fiber diet. This class also provides information on how to increase someone’s life-style activity level and their goals for cardiovascular exercise. For an appointment, call 247-5590.

Nutrition counseling

The HAWC has a registered dietitian who provides individual nutrition counseling. For an appointment, call 247-5590.

Tobacco cessation course

This four-class program includes participant interaction and presentations by a team of multi-disciplinary professionals. This program also includes Zyban. Classes are Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 24 from 9 – 10:30 a.m.

Managing stress

This class will provide ways to recognize the symptoms of stress and how to manage it productively with breathing techniques, muscle relaxation methods, problem solving and visual imagery relaxation methods.

Postmenopausal hormone replacement therapy

This one-hour class covers the pros and cons of taking hormones after menopause and includes reviews of the most recent studies. This class is held on the second Friday of each month from 10-11 a.m.



Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan

Athlete of the Week

Bradley Eckles

Activities: Football, wallyball, and basketball.

Training: Running, push-ups and sit-ups.

Favorite sport: Wrestling and boxing.

Fitness accomplishment: Staying well under my maximum weight and preparing for our new fitness standards, starting next month.

Advice: Unless you are a finely tuned athlete at the top of your game — we all have room to grow as far as our fitness goes.

Goal: To be as overall fit, strong and fast as I can be.

Motivation: Life is short. I want to be healthy from now until I'm old and gray; if I'm so blessed.

Motto: “When you realize you aren't the best at something, never settle for anything less than most improved.”

WELLNESS TIP

Preventing heart attacks

Automatic external defibrillators will save twice as many lives as cardiopulmonary resuscitation alone

To reduce the risk of breast cancer:

- Increased availability of AEDs can help prevent 50,000+ cardiac arrest deaths annually
- AEDs are simple to use, battery-operated, computerized machines
- They deliver a specific shock to the heart, restoring normal heartbeat
- Every minute without defibrillation decreases odds of survival 7 to 10 percent

Air Mobility Command has requested a \$360,000 mission support grant to place 103 AEDs at 10 bases

*American Cancer Society statistics

SOURCE: AMC Command Surgeon Office

InfoGraphic by Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan